the communities in which there was not much of co-operation. Finally, the Member prayed for loans being granted to Ezhavas on easy terms for the development of industries.

Dewan's reply.—You have made three main requests.

You say that Ezhavas are not represented on certain branches of the public service and on certain representative bodies. It is not possible to give representation to every community in each and every organisation. The claims of all communities are considered and representation is given to the most deserving as far as possible.

In regard to co-operation, you seem to object to Co-operative Societies being started by particular communities. There is, no doubt, that Co-operative Societies in which all communities are represented are ideal Co-operative Societies. But, if particular communities show greater activity in regard to co-operative organisation than other communities and start societies on a communal basis, I do not see why it should be objected to. It is better to have such Co-operative Societies than to have no Co-operative Societies at all. Ezhavas may start Co-operative Societies and every facility will be afforded to them.

The suggestion in regard to Honorary Registrars will be referred to the Registrar of Co-operative Societies. He has already been asked to select Honorary Registrars to do propaganda work and a certain amount of money has been earmarked in the budget to meet their travelling allowance. When the Registrar makes his recommendation for the appointment of Honorary Assistant Registrars, Government will be glad to include Ezhavas among them, if there are persons duly qualified to hold that post.

In regard to the Economic Development Board, it was started only 18 months ago. It is not possible to give representation to all communities on a single Board. I hope the Board will be a body which will continue to do useful work for some time and I have no doubt that an Ezhava will sit on it in due time.

54. Hardships caused to the people by the auction sale of lime-shells as a State monopoly.

Mr. Kanakku Padmanabahan Sankaran (Member, Karunagapallai Taluk) said that the subject of the lease of the right to collect lime-shells was of so serious a nature that he felt fully justified in bringing it forward as a separate representation to the Assembly. His objections to the lease were:—

(1) that it was difficult to get quicklime for building and manurial purposes;

(2) that the lease affected prejudicially the ryots of Kuttanad;

(3) that the people who were engaged in the trade were bereft of their means of livelihood;

(4) that the price of quicklime had increased considerably : and

(5) that the income to the Government from that source was not commensurate with the increase in the price of quicklime, with the result that Government would be losers by the new arrangement in the long run.

The Member, therefore, requested that the Government might be pleased to cancel the lease.

Dewan's reply.—I have already replied to a representation from Mr. Narayana Aiyar, Member for the Ambalapuzha taluk, on this very subject. So as far we are able to gather, we have not been instrumental in raising the price of lime-shells in any place except Quilon, where the price has gone up by half a *fanam* per *para*. The effect of the measure will be watched, and if it is found that the sale of lime-shells as a monopoly prejudicially affects the ryots, suitable measures will be adopted to remedy the evil.

55. Possibilities of the Co-operative movement in Travancore.

Mr. S. Manuel (Member, Nominated) began by thanking the Government on behalf of the Co-operative Societies of the State and on behalf of the Y. M. C. A.,

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